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Some Account
of
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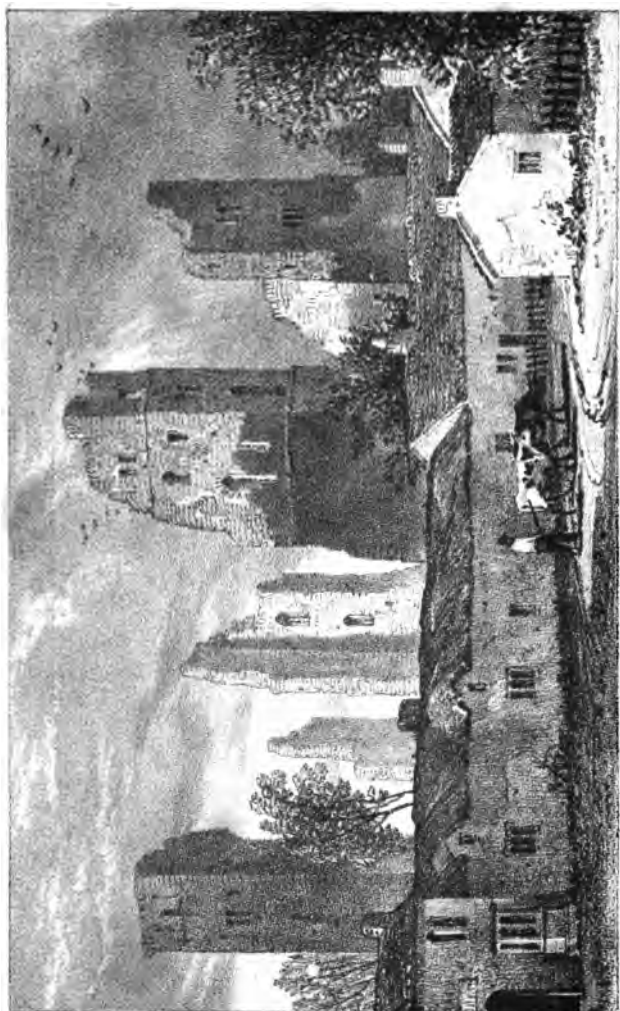
Edmund Kirby from

B. Goddard

from S. L. Thompson Esq.

1846

SHERIFF-HUTTON.



NORTH WEST VIEW OF SHERIFF HUTTON CASTLE.

Drawn by H. Cave.

Published by L. & Co. Todd, York, 1834.

Castellum Bottonicum.

SOME ACCOUNT

OF

SHERIFF-HUTTON CASTLE,

(Founded in the Reign of King Stephen)

WITH

BRIEF NOTICES

OF THE

**CHURCH OF ST. HELEN, THE ANCIENT FOREST
OF GALTRES, THE POET GOWER
OF STITENHAM, &c. &c.**

*With two Lithographic Views and a Plan of the Castle, and an
Engraving of the Princess Elizabeth of York, afterwards
Queen of Henry VII.*

York:

PUBLISHED BY J. AND G. TODD;

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Br 5231.78



Lane fund

"SPARSA COEGL"

By George W. Todd

TO
GEORGE LOWTHER THOMPSON, Esq. M. P.
OF
SHERIFF-HUTTON PARK,
THIS ATTEMPT
TO REVIVE THE *MEMORABILIA*
OF
SHERIFF-HUTTON,
IS
RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED
BY
HIS OBLIGED
AND MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,
GEORGE TODD.

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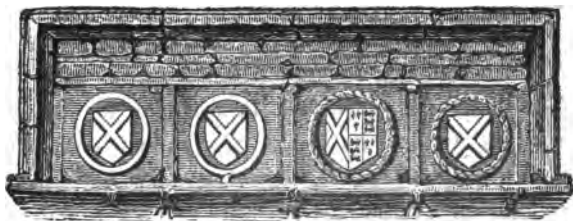
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* * Omitted at p. 7—height of the Towers, viz.			
N. East Tower...	74½ feet,	or 24 yds.	30 inches
N. West	85½	28	18
S. East	69½	23	6
S. West	100	33	12

These heights are calculated from observations taken from the centre of the inner or large Court-Yard, Dec. 17, 1800.

Omitted in Addenda, p. 38, after “ Lumsden, or Linsdon,” read, Steward of the Manor, and Constable of the Castle.

✓ North-west View of the Castle to face the Title.	
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SHERIFF-HUTTON.

OF Sheriff-Hutton Castle it may almost be said,
that there is extant—

————— “no honourable note,
No Chronicle of all its martial pride,
To testify what once it was, how great,
How glorious, or how fear'd.”

And yet, although now in ruinous condition, it is not devoid of interest, on account of those Historical anecdotes attached to it, which render even “mere masses of stone” the source of literary amusement and useful instruction; and whether considered as being in some degree connected with

A

the early periods of our national records, or as a venerable and picturesque relique of former ages, it is alike deserving of attention, both from the Historian and the Antiquary.

Indeed the circumstance of King Richard the Third having formerly imprisoned for several months within its walls that illustrious lady, "*Elizabeth of York*," who afterwards became the mother of Henry the Eighth, and of Margaret, Queen of Scotland, is alone sufficient to excite our curiosity. When we reflect also, that King Richard occasionally visited the Castle during his progresses in Yorkshire,* and kept in confinement here upwards of two years, the youthful and unfortunate Edward, Earl of Warwick,† the last male heir of the royal line of Plantagenet; and, moreover, that it afterwards became the residence of the Earl of Surrey, and the Dukes of Norfolk and Richmond — we cannot fail, in contemplating its ruins, to feel impressed with a local train of ideas associated with these events, and may truly affirm that Sheriff-

* There are letters, it is believed, preserved to this day in the British Museum, in Richard's own hand writing, dated "Sheriff-Hutton Castle."

† Only son of the Duke of Clarence, (elder brother to King Richard III.) who is supposed to have been drowned in a butt of Malmsey.

SHERIFF-HUTTON CASTLE. 3

Hutton Castle is thus rendered, one of the most interesting objects of antiquity in the neighbourhood of York.

The Castle is situated in the Wapentake of Bulmer, and is distant ten miles north-east from York, passing through the pleasant villages of Huntington and Strensall, and by the High-Roans Farm, and the head of the River Foss Navigation. It is the property, along with the Manor, of the most noble Isabella Anne Ingram Seymour Conway, Marchioness of Hertford, daughter of the late Lord Irwin, of Temple Newsam.* Of the early history of the Castle we know but little. The slender accounts of it that have reached our times, ascribe its origin to *Bertram de Bulmer*, an English Baron, who is recorded by *Camden*† to have built it in the reign of King Stephen, A. D. 1140.

* The Marchioness possesses upwards of 3,000 acres in this neighbourhood, and the rents are received by the steward, John Pemberton Heywood, Esq. of Wakefield, at an inn nearly opposite the Castle, kept by Mr. Morley. The Manor of Sheriff-Hutton is co-extensive with the Parish, and Mr. Lockwood, of Easingwold, holds the Manor-Court annually at Michaelmas. The Court-House is built partly upon the old walls of the Castle, at the north-east corner of the outer area, and is tenanted by Mr. Robert Atlay.

† William Camden, one of the most eminent English Antiquaries, born 1551, died 1623. The Wapentake of Bulmer is supposed to derive its name from the village of Bulmer, (which

At this period, says *Hume*, all England was nearly filled with these kind of fortresses. The turbulent Barons confederated together against the King, in requiring a right of building and fortifying their Castles, to enable them in a great measure to shake off the restraint of Government, and the better to support their pretensions against their rivals or enemies.

The owners of the Castle, from its first erection to the present time, may be traced in the following order :—From the Bulmers it descended by marriage to the noble family of the Nevilles, and continued in their possession upwards of 300 years, through a regular series of reigns, until seized by Edward IV. in 1471, who soon after gave the Castle and Manor to his brother the Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III. In 1485, in consequence of the death of Richard at the Battle of Bosworth Field, it became the property of King Henry VII. and continued in the hands of the Crown, until James the First

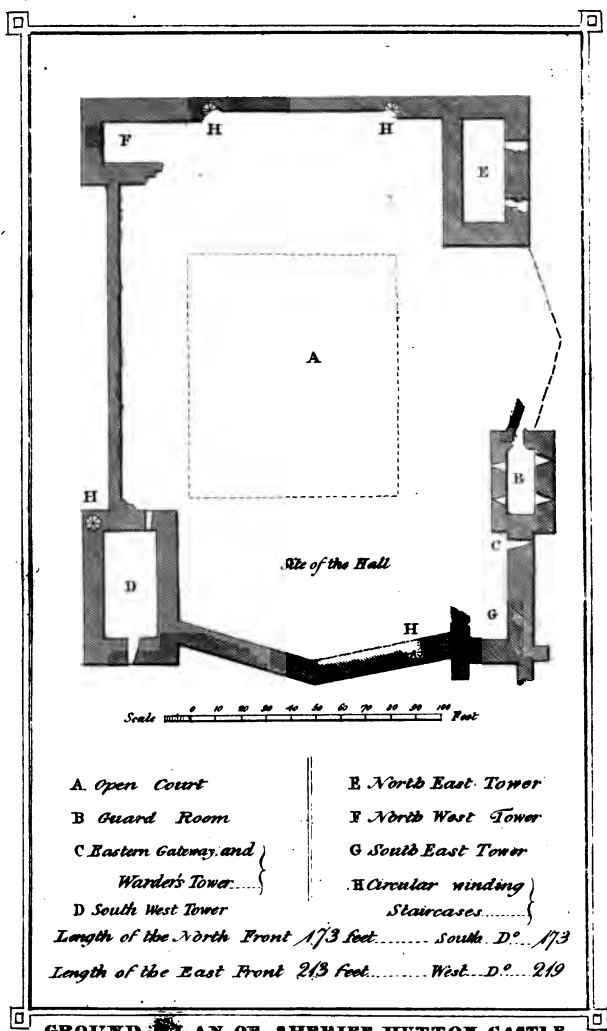
is situated about three miles from Sheriff-Hutton) and where Bertram de Bulmer and his ancestors had no doubt considerable possessions. In the "*Magna Britannia*," vol. 6, it is stated that the Castle, together with the Manor, was formerly part of the demesnes of the Bishop of Durham; and in the civil wars between King Stephen and the Empress Maud, was seized for the King, by Alan, Earl of Brittany and Richmond. It was afterwards purchased by Bertram de Bulmer, a descendant of the founder.

granted it to his son, Prince Charles, about 1616. The Castle and Manor were subsequently granted (also by King James, according to *Camden*, and the original grant confirmed by Prince Charles after he ascended the throne) to the family of the Ingrams, about 1624-5, and are now in possession of their lineal descendant, the present Marchioness of Hertford, as before stated.

It is singular that not the least mention is made of this Castle in "*Grose's Antiquities*," or in any ancient work of Topography with engravings—and it is much to be regretted that no view of it, in its original fortified state, can any where be met with. Report asserts, that during the civil wars in the time of Charles the First, it was dismantled, and the greater part of its walls taken down, by order of the Parliament. But this is certainly not the fact, as will be seen by reference to the "Royal Survey," made in 1624, and here printed in the *Addenda*. From this *Survey* it will appear evident, that the Castle was dismantled and almost in total ruin in the time of James I.—how long it had been so, previous to the survey alluded to, is now difficult to say. From the present appearance of the ruins, it is plain that the Castle was purposely demolished and taken down by workmen, (probably under an order from the Crown, in whatever reign it might happen) and not destroyed by violence of war.

However, since this devastation by human hands, the yet more powerful and corroding hand of Time has still further contributed to its destruction. More of its lofty towers are now levelled with the ground,—especially one in the outer area, which had quite overhung its base, and was forcibly pulled down by the aid of 20 or 30 horses yoked to it, within the recollection of the present tenant of the court-house.

The Castle stands upon a rising bank or eminence in front of the village, and its ruins may be seen on every side at a great distance. They exhibit, at the present day, a quadrangular form, with a large open court in the centre, and flanked with high square towers at each angle, the corner stones of which are in excellent preservation. There is also a considerable part of the *Warder's Tower* remaining over the *Eastern Gateway*. The materials of which the Castle is built are a sort of brown grit stone, said to have been brought from the quarry at *Terrington*, (v. *Leland*) two miles distant, and partly also from *Mowthorp* or *Stitenham*; and in the walls are cavities which shew the remains of five distinct stories, with several small apartments, vestiges of chimnies, windows, and loop-holes, and of a narrow passage or gallery having extended all around. The wall of the south front presents a remarkable appearance, having an obtuse angle of several feet projecting outwards. This peculiarity is represented



GROUND PLAN OF SHERIFF HUTTON CASTLE.

taken Nov^r 1823.

Published by J. & G. Dodd York. 1824.



SOUTH EAST VIEW OF SHERIFF HUTTON CASTLE.

Drawn by H. Carr

Published by J. & G. Hildes, York: 1824.

in the plate of the South-east View of the Castle, and also in the Ground Plan. The same peculiarity has existed in a part of the eastern wall, viz. from the Guard-Room to the North-east Tower, the foundations of which are traced out as marked by the dotted line in the Plan.

The South-west Tower is 100 feet in height, and is the highest remaining. Underneath is a deep Keep or Dungeon, measuring 40 feet by 20, the roof arched over with stone, semi-circular, and the walls of at least eight feet in thickness, cemented with very hard mortar. There are two entrances to it,—one inwardly, from an uncommonly large winding staircase in the north-west corner; and the other outwardly by a pointed door-way, which is now quite open, and there is nothing to prevent cattle, &c. from harbouring here unmolested. Directly above this dungeon, one of the ancient chambers still remains, in good preservation, and is also arched over, semi-circular, with stone. The dungeon itself has obtained from the inhabitants of the village, the appellation of the "*Sound-ing Hall*," from the hollow jarring sound emitted when speaking aloud, or striking heavily with the foot on the floor, thereby giving the idea of another apartment existing underneath. But this is perhaps merely the effect of imagination.

In the North-east Tower, at cross angles, there is another Keep or Dungeon, but it is closed up

by a wooden door and locked. It is nearly similar to the other, and has also an apartment or chamber above, with a vaulted ceiling, &c. in a perfect state. This Tower has a very massive appearance, and is the strongest of the four. Probably each of the other Towers has formerly had a dungeon; and it is believed, a subterraneous passage also, although now choaked up with rubbish. Indeed the whole appearance of the ruins in every part, still retains the most interesting marks of feudal state, and baronial severity.

The South-east Tower is supported outwardly with strong buttresses, and in this respect is singular, none of the others having any appearance of the kind. The rooms in this and the North-west Tower are all demolished. The whole four towers appear to have been furnished with circular winding staircases—but the steps are quite gone to ruin. The staircase in the south-west leading down into the dungeon is particularly deserving attention, being remarkably large and curious, and of excellent masonry.

In the 16th volume of a popular Topographical work, published in 1815, entitled “*Beauties of England and Wales*,” it is stated, that, ‘In the upper room of Sheriff-Hutton Castle may be seen the remains of a *painting*, though too much defaced to exhibit any distinguishable representation.’ But the compiler of the present account,

when carefully examining these chambers in November, 1823, to his great disappointment, could not perceive any remains of a painting whatever, except a trifling scroll in the arch of one of the windows ; neither could he learn by inquiry that any thing of the kind ever had been there. Both the chambers, although in good preservation, as before observed, are merely filled with joiners' wood-work, &c., and the walls are quite bare. In the work above quoted, it is also said, that *seven* towers remain, whereas there are only *five*.*

The principal entrance into the great court or inner area of the Castle appears to have been on the east side, where there is a rather low gateway with pointed arch, and above are the remains of the Warder's Tower, on which four shields of arms are placed in a sunk tablet, exhibiting the achievements of the Nevilles, (the principal renovators of the Castle,) viz. a Saltire, or St. Andrew's Cross. The third shield is quartered with the Royal Arms on the sinister side, viz. three Lions passant gardant, and three Fleur de Lys ; one of the Nevilles having married a daughter of John of Gaunt, in 1426.† (See *Vignette on the first page*.)

* Hinderwell's *History of Scarborough* contains the same statement.—The errors seem to have been copied from "*Magna Britannia*," published in 1738. Certainly, at that period, the statement of the seven Towers was correct—and it is possible that such also might have been the fact with regard to the *Painting*.

† John of Gaunt, or Ghent, Duke of Lancaster, was third son of Edward III.—born at Ghent in 1340—died, 1399.

Adjoining this gateway is a very strongly built apartment of large bulky appearance, although inwardly of rather small dimensions, and probably serving as a guard room for prisoners in the feudal times. The walls are arched over with solid blocks of stone, and are uncommonly massive, being in some places upwards of ten feet thick. This guard room is at present an open receptacle for carts, and implements of husbandry.

The lover of picturesque may perhaps regret, that none of the towers, or any part of the walls of the Castle, display the least appearance of ivy; a plant which is often observed to be luxuriant in other ruinous buildings, and, in the present instance, if carefully planted and suffered to entwine, would greatly add to the embellishment of the scene. One of our modern Poets thus describes the effect which might be expected to ensue upon such an occasion—

“ Wind, gentle evergreen, thy spreading arms,
Round *Hutton's* ancient Tow'rs; and, from the blast
Of Winter, shield them with thy mantling charms,
That they to time's remotest morn may last.
Lodg'd in thy leaves, the birds of various wing
Shall, unrestrain'd, their mossy mansions form,
And round each pond'ring visitant shall sing,
Safe from the truant schoolboy and the storm.
Spread, gentle evergreen! thy branches kind,
O'er *Hutton's* Castle—awful in decay;
Let them around its lofty towers wind,
And deck with sober green its ruins grey.”

SHERIFF-HUTTON CASTLE. 11

On the north side of the Castle, deeply situated in a small ravine or valley, there is an ancient well, faced with stone, and no doubt formerly within the compass of the Castle walls. At present it is much resorted to by the villagers on account of the excellent water it contains.

At the bottom of the hill, facing the south front, are two oblong moats, (or double fosse) each about two hundred yards in length and six yards wide, and divided by a plot of ground between, but they do not appear ever to have extended round the Castle. They are several feet in depth, and were formerly used as fish-ponds. The whole ground, from these ancient moats north about to the Castle-well just mentioned, is somewhat strangely diversified with steep dells, and hollows, as indeed are most other parts of the village, but whether from nature or art is difficult to determine. Probably the Geologist may here find himself equally interested with the Antiquary.

Having now finished the description of the ruins of this old Castle, as they at present remain; it will be requisite to proceed with extracts from two ancient authors relative to its earlier form and appearance,

In the time of *Leland*, who lived in the reign of Henry the Eighth, and was "Library-Keeper"

to the King,* this Castle must have been of much larger extent, as appears by the following extract from his Itinerary, vol. I. p. 73. It will be observed that he differs from Camden with respect to the name of the founder. 'A mile on this side Shirhuten I left on the right hand, Stitenham, Mr. Gower's auncient Manor Place. The Castle of Shirhuten, as I learned there, was builded by Rafe Nevill,† of Raby, the first Earl of Westmoreland of the Neviles, and I heard that in hys tyme he buildid or greatly augmentid or repaired 3 Castells byside. There is a base Court with Houses of Office beside the enterig. The Castle itself in front is not ditchid, but it standeth in *loco utcunque edito*. I marked in the fore front of the first area of the Castle three great and high Towres, of the which

* Leland was patronized by the King for his great zeal in Antiquarian research—he died in 1552.

† Most likely this is only an accidental error, as there can be little doubt that the Bulmers preceded the Neviles in its erection. The supposition is, that the Castle was greatly in want of repairs, (owing to the civil wars in King Stephen's time) when Rafe Nevill succeeded to the possession, and that he took nearly the whole of it down and re-built it. This is rendered more probable, from the exhibition of the Earl's coat of arms in the first shield over the gateway, and there not being any remains of the Bulmer arms in any part of the building. But there are other contradictions respecting Sheriff-Hutton Castle, both in *Leland*, "*Gough's Camden*," the "*Magna Britannia*," &c. which the present Editor does not feel at all competent to reconcile.

‘ the Gatehouse was the middle. In the second
 ‘ area be five or six towres, and the statelie stair up
 ‘ to the Haul is very magnificent, and so is the
 ‘ Haul itself, and all the residue of the House,
 ‘ insomuch that I saw no house in the North so like
 ‘ a Princely Lodging. This Castle is well main-
 ‘ tained, by reason that the late Duke of Norfolk
 ‘ lay there ten yeares, and sins then the Duke of
 ‘ Richmond. Ther is a Park by it.’

Thus far *Leland*,—and in addition to his account of the Hall, it may be remarked, that the ancient Miustrels of the family, in the early Baronial times, were here accustomed to pour forth their animating strains in the hours of revelry and joy. But, alas! the “Statelie Haul” is now become a scene of total waste and ruin, and part of its site on the south side is at present occupied by a joiner’s saw-pit. This desolate appearance will probably impress the mind of the Visitor with reflections on the extreme mutability of all human grandeur, and powerfully recall to his memory the days of auld lang syne, when—

“ Princes sat where nettles grow.”

The next author who notices this “Princely Lodging,” is the venerable *Camden*, in his laborious work, entitled “*Britannia*,” wherein he styles it a most elegant Castle, pleasantly seated among the woods. His account, whilst mentioning the adjacent village of *Craike*, is thus written—*Vix quarto hinc milliari Sherry-Hutton summæ elegantix*

*‘Castrum a Bertramo de Bulmer extractum, & a Radulpho Nevil primo Westmorlandiæ Comite restauratum inter nemuscula amænissimè sedet.’**

With these bare and very imperfect notices of its early history, under the Bulmers and Nevilles, we must of necessity be content; as Leland and Camden are the only ancient authors of repute who afford any light upon the subject, and a space of nearly three centuries is thus enveloped in gloom and uncertainty.

Francis Drake, the celebrated author of the History of York, has fortunately preserved a few interesting facts of later date relative to this once stately fabric. After expatiating on the dark reign of Richard the Third, and commenting on his successor, he says, ‘The first thing the victor† did, ‘after his conquest near *Bosworth*,‡ was to send immediately for the PRINCESS ELIZABETH, the heiress of the house of York; whom he had sworn to marry before his invasion. This Princess had been sent by *Richard*,§ a kind of a prisoner, to *Sheriff-Hutton Castle* in our neighbourhood, as a place of great strength and security. It is said the uncle intended to marry his niece himself, to prevent any other from doing it. The messenger

* v. Latin Folio edition of *Camden*, 1607, p. 588.

† Henry, Earl of Richmond.

‡ On the 22d of August, 1485.

§ The Princess was sent hither as soon as the King heard of the intended invasion of Henry Earl of Richmond,

‘ made use of by *Henry* on this important occasion
 ‘ seems to be Sir *John Halewell*, mentioned in one
 ‘ of the warrants ; the *secret commission* he was en-
 ‘ trusted with pointing at no less. The Princess
 ‘ was conducted publicly up to *London*, and a nu-
 ‘ merous suit of nobility met and attended her.
 ‘ But there was another of royal blood, in the same
 ‘ Castle, whom *Henry’s* jealousy would not allow
 ‘ such pageantry to. This was no less a person
 ‘ than EDWARD PLANTAGENET, EARL OF WARWICK,
 ‘ only son to *George*, Duke of *Clarence*, the late King
 ‘ *Richard’s* elder brother ; just then fifteen years of
 ‘ age. This branch of a royal stock was born to be
 ‘ unhappy ; if the knowledge of his birth-right,
 ‘ which was kept industriously from him, as well as
 ‘ every part of education had not made him thought-
 ‘ less about it. To whose care and custody *Richard*

(head of the house of Lancaster) from Harfleur into Wales—

“ K. RICH. ————— how now, Lord Stanley,
 what news with you ?

STANLEY. Richmond is on the Seas, my Liege.

K. RICH. There let him sink, and be the Seas on
 him !

Cowardly runagate, what doth he there ?”

Shakespeare’s Play, Act IV. Sc. IV.

The King had previously gone over to Sheriff-Hutton Castle, to examine its strength, &c. during his second coronation, at York, in 1483. It is asserted, (v. *Magna Britannia*, vol. 6, p. 391,) that Richard also arrested (before he was King) and sent prisoner to this Castle, Anthony Woodville, Earl of Rivers, uncle to Edward the Fifth, who was afterwards beheaded at Pontefract, along with Lord Grey.

‘ had entrusted these two particulars I know not ;
‘ the Castle was then in possession of the *Nevils*,
‘ but this is another great instance of the trust he
‘ had in the northern, rather than the southern, parts
‘ of the kingdom. We are told that *Henry* dis-
‘ patched away Sir *Robert Willoughby*, the day after
‘ the battle, to take the Prince from his keepers,
‘ and convey him privately to the tower of *London*.
‘ It was not long after that this innocent youth
‘ shared the same fate with his cousins, *Edward V.*
‘ and his brother; the difference only, that the for-
‘ mer execrable deed is said to have been acted in
‘ the dead of the night, and *Henry* with as much
‘ justice, caused his head to be struck off in open
‘ day-light. In this Prince the royal line of the
‘ *Plantagenets* failed. Monsieur *Rapin de Thoyras*,
‘ an historian apparently opposite to an hereditary
‘ title to the crown of *England*, writes thus, how-
‘ ever, of this unfortunate Prince: ‘ A prince,’ says
‘ he, ‘ who was the sole relict of the male issue of
‘ *Edward* the Third, which had been so numerous,
‘ but was almost entirely destroyed by the late civil
‘ wars. The last of the *Angavin* or *Plantagenet*
‘ race, which had been in possession of the crown
‘ of *England*, from father to son, during the space
‘ of three hundred and thirty years.’ The Histo-
‘ rian (*Drake*) afterwards proceeds to narrate, that
‘ The Princess *Elizabeth* was presently married
‘ to *Henry*; but he always seemed to scorn the title
‘ he had with her, and was the first King of Eng-

‘land that chose, rather, to make his claim to the crown *de facto* than *de jure*. It was three years before he would have her crowned according to his oath; and, *it is very true*, says the great Lord *Verulam*, that Henry shewed himself no very indulgent husband to the Lady Elizabeth, though she was beautiful and gentle, and then but nineteen years of age.’ Such are the details afforded from Mr. Drake’s History. (v. *Eboracum*, p. 124.)

The reader will observe, that contemporary with Elizabeth, the YOUNG PLANTAGENET appears also to have been confined in this Castle by his uncle, Richard III. who feared that he might become a dangerous competitor for his crown. The Prince was kept here during the whole of Richard’s reign, viz. two years and two months, but he was not treated harshly. Indeed, Mr. *Horace Walpole*, (Earl of Orford) in his “*Historic Doubts on the Life and Reign of Richard*,” asserts that the King had an affection for his nephew, and intended him for his successor. The noble author says, ‘Richard actually proclaimed him heir to the crown after the death of his own son, and ordered him to be served next to himself and the Queen, though he afterwards set him aside and confined him in the Castle of Sheriff-Hutton, on account of the plots of his enemies thickening, so that he found it necessary to secure such as had any pretensions to the crown.’

C

But what will be thought of the conduct of the Earl of Richmond, who, continues Walpole, 'The very day after the battle of Bosworth, was so far from being led away from attention to his interest by the glare of his new-acquired crown; that he sent for the Earl of Warwick from Sheriff-Hutton, and committed him to the Tower, from whence he never stirred more, but fell a sacrifice to his inhuman jealousy.' And when Lambert Simnel first personated the young Earl, as related in the History of England, King Henry exhibited the poor Prince on a Sunday throughout the principal streets of London, and had him conducted to St. Paul's Cross, to be openly examined by the Nobles, &c. in order to convince them of Simnel's imposture.

Mr. Horace Walpole is the principal author who has endeavoured to palliate the vices of Richard. He contends, that many of the crimes imputed to him were improbable, and contrary to his interest to be guilty of. His "Historic Doubts" certainly contain many very curious documents, which tend, in a great measure, to dispel the obscurity of that part of our annals, relative to the civil wars of York and Lancaster. In this work also will be found several interesting particulars concerning the young Plantagenet confined at Sheriff-Hutton.

With regard to the behaviour of Richard to his niece, the PRINCESS ELIZABETH, he does not appear

to have actually had any intention of marrying her himself, (as noticed by *Drake*) but to have amused her only with the splendour of that match, to prevent her marrying the Earl of Richmond.

Elizabeth is well known as the eldest daughter of Edward IV. This Monarch had seized the Castle of Sheriff-Hutton for his own use, immediately after the death of Richard Nevile, Earl of Warwick, the celebrated "*King-maker*," who was slain at the battle of Barnet, and was at that time Constable of the Castle. The Princess was born at Westminster in 1466, and died in child-bed in the Tower in 1503, aged 37. Upon her monument in Westminster Abbey is a Latin inscription, denoting the royalty of her descent. She was only nineteen years of age, when she left Sheriff-Hutton Castle, attended, as it has been seen, with a numerous suite of Noblemen and Ladies, to be married to the King; and ever after her marriage she bore in her shield of arms a White Rose and a Red, entwined together. But her coronation did not take place until two years subsequent to this event, viz. 25 Nov. 1487. On this occasion, which was one of the most splendid royal progresses on record, she was habited in a kirtle and mantle of purple velvet, with a circlet of white and red roses composed of gold and precious stones on her head, and "*her sayre yelow beare hanging down playne behinde her back.*" After the ceremony of the coronation, the tables at the Palace of West-

minster were furnished with some curious productions of ancient cookery: ‘*Feisaunt royall, swan with chawdron, capons of high greece, and pike in latymer sawse*’ were among the dishes served at the royal board. At the second course ‘as the high bourde was servid, the kings mynstrells played a song before the queene, that Garter king of armes, with other kings of armes, harawlds, and pursuyvants, did their obeysaunce, and at the presens, in the name of all the officers, gave the queene thanckings, as followeth, saying, Right high, mightie, most noble and excellent princesse, most christian queene, and all our most dreadde sovereign and liege ladie, we the officers of armes and servaunts to all nobles beseche Almighty God to thanke yow for the great and abundant largesse which your grace hath geven us in the honour of your most rightuous coronacion, and to sende your grace to lyve in honour and vertue.—And that done, she was cryed, as enseweth, in five places of the hall, by the said Garter, *Largesse three tymes, De la treshault, trespuissant, tresexcellēt princesse, la tresnoble royne Dangleterre, et de Fraunce, et dame de Ireland, Largesse*; and at every second cry, as enseweth, *Largesse*, as afore, *De la treshault, trespuissant, &c.* That done, the officers went to the cubborde, to the erle of Arundell, great butler, and dranke. Then played the queenes mynstrells, and after them the mynstrells of other estates.”—After this the queen was served with



THE PRINCESS
ELIZABETH OF YORK,
Eldest Daughter of King Edward IV. Aged 19.
CONFINED IN SHERIFF-HUTTON CASTLE,
BY KING RICHARD THE THIRD, A.D. 1485.

Published by John & George Todd York 1824.

‘fruit and wafers, and by the mayor of London
 ‘with ipocras ; she then “departed with God’s
 ‘blessing and to the rejoicing of many a trew
 ‘Englishman’s hart.’*

Granger, in his *Biographical History of England*, informs us that Elizabeth was a pattern of conjugal duty and obsequiousness, but she met with very cold returns of affection from the King, whose malignity to the House of York, and jealousy of its title to the crown, extended itself even to his amiable Queen.†

There is an interesting portrait of this illustrious Princess in the 4th volume of *Grose’s Antiquarian Repertory*, (*an Engraving of which is here represented*) from an original painting in the possession of the Rev. Dr. Farmer, of Cambridge. She appears to be of an extremely fair and youthful countenance, holding a white rose in her hand, (the emblem of her house) and habited in the curious and fashionably pointed head-dress of her

* *a. Taylor’s “Glories of Regality,”* 8vo. p. 278.

† Seven children were the issue of this union of the two rival houses of York and Lancaster, the White Rose and the Red, viz. Prince Arthur, who died at the early age of sixteen; Henry, afterwards Henry VIII.; Edmund, Duke of Somerset; Margaret, who married James King of Scotland; Elizabeth, who died at four years of age; Mary, affianced to Charles, son of Philip of Castile; and Catharine, who died an infant. Of *Margaret*, there is a fine portrait existing, painted on oak panel, by *MABEUSE*, and now in possession of the Compiler of this little Account.

time. Underneath the portrait is the following quotation from Shakspeare's Play of Richard III. when the Earl of Richmond, after having slain the King, exclaims—

“ O, now let Richmond and Elizabeth,
The true succeders of each royal house,
By God's fair ordinance conjoin together.”

In the same work of *Grose*, will be found a very long and particular account of the magnificent ceremonies observed at her funeral, from a MS. in the possession of Richard Bull, Esq. F. S. A.

There is another likeness of Elizabeth, exhibited in Lodge's beautiful engravings, entitled “Portraits of Illustrious Personages of Great Britain,” copied from a painting in the possession of the Earl of Essex—but in this she appears eight or ten years older. A long Biographical Notice is prefixed, *v.* also Birch's *Lives of Illustrious Persons*, folio, p. 163; and Vertue's fine engraving of Holbein's “*Regia Familia*.” It is believed there is no portrait engraven of the young Plantagenet, as there is no mention of any such either in *Granger* or *Bromley*. The most favourable likeness of Richard III. may be seen in “Walpole's Historic Doubts,” from a painting by Vertue. According to this author, he was only about 32 years of age at the time of his death.

In the fifth volume of Sir John Fenn's Letters, are two extremely curious Portraits of Richard, and his son Edward, Prince of Wales; both in

armour, and copied from an historical roll in the Heralds' Office, composed by *John Rous*, the Antiquary, who lived at this period, and had seen Richard at York. He thus describes his person—

“*Parvæ stature erat, curtam habens faciem, inæquales humeros, dexter superior, sinisterque inferior.*”

After the death of Richard, and the consequent removal from the Castle, of the Princess Elizabeth, and the Earl of Warwick; it appears, that **THOMAS HOWARD, EARL OF SURREY**, was the succeeding inhabitant of its ancient walls, and resided here sometime between the years 1490 and 1500. This nobleman had been sent hither by Henry VII. in order to quell the insurrections in the north.

The following original Letter, written by the Earl to Sir John Paston, Knight, dated from Sheriff-Hutton Castle, 24th April, is extracted from the fifth volume of “*Fenn's Letters*” just mentioned. It contains a curious anecdote relative to the jealousies existing between the English and Scots at that turbulent period; a single person being harrassed at Norwich upon a supposition that he was born in Scotland, a suggestion which, from this letter, appears not to be true.

To our Right Worshipful Cousin, Sir John Paston, Knight.

RIGHT Worshipful Cousin, in right hearty wise I commend me unto you, and where[as] I understand by Thomas Hartford, a bowyer of Norwich, bearer hereof, [that he] hath been

put to great vexation and trouble by one Thomas Hogan, shoemaker, of Norwich, and that I perceive ye have heard the matter depending in traverse betwixt the said parties; I therefore desire you that, in the right of the foresaid Thomas Hartford, ye will be unto him good master, and the better for this mine instance, as my singular trust is in you. And where[as] I conceive also that the same Thomas is noised in Norfolk for a *Scoteman born*; ye shall understand that I perceive well, by such honest folks as I have heard speak within the city of *York*, that the said Thomas was born *there*, and his father there inhabiting, and his godfathers and mothers, the which be right honest persons; and for that this is true, and not feigned, ye shall understand the mayor of the city of *York* and his brethren have made great instance unto me to write for the said Thomas; for whom I must needs do, because they are my nigh neighbours, as our Lord knoweth, who have you in his blessed safeguard.

Written in the castle of Sheriff Hutton, the 24th day of April.

Your loving Cousin,

Sheriff Hutton, Yorkshire,

THOMAS SURREY.

24th April;

probably between 1490 and 1500.

5 and 15 H. vii.

In the subsequent reign of Henry VIII. it is recorded by *Leland*, that THOMAS, the second DUKK OF NORFOLK, or, as he is sometimes styled, the great Duke of Norfolk, was in possession of the Castle, which was granted to him by the King for life, and that he resided here ten years. The "*Statelie Hall*," during his long continuance, was no doubt frequently the scene of great festivity. In corroboration of which, may be quoted the famous *John Skelton*, *Poet Laureat* to King Henry,

who has written some very curious stanzas, illustrative of the manners of those times. They are entitled "A Crown of Laurel," and the scene is laid at Sheriff-Hutton, in the Forest of Galtres, about the year 1520. The Countess of Surrey, whom Skelton eulogizes in this fanciful and romantic poem, as the admirer and friend of the muses, was probably on a visit to the Duke at that period. The names of several attendant Ladies of the Court are also recorded, and each made the subject of a separate stanza. At the commencement, he alludes to the state apartments of the Castle. A great portion of this poem (the original edition of which is extremely rare) may be seen in the first volume of the Rev. Dr. Nott's "Works of Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey; and Sir Thomas Wyatt"—and perhaps it may not be deemed uninteresting to give the first stanza as a specimen of the Poet's style. Skelton describes himself, as falling into a slumbering, while musing in the Forest of Galtres. He then sees the Queen of Fame, who deems him worthy of being Poet Laureat, with whom he enters into conversation—

"Thus talking we went forth, in at a postern gate.
Turning on the right hand, by a winding stair,
She brought me to a goodly chamber of estate
Where the noble Countess of Surrey in a chair
Sat honourably; to whom all did repair
Of Ladies a bevy, with all due reverence.
Sit down fair Ladies and do your diligence."

The following are the names of the attendant Ladies, who are supposed to have made up the

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“fair bevy,” and who were to work the “*Crown of Laurel*” for Skelton, in silk embroidery—viz. The Lady Elizabeth Howard; the Lady Myrrial Howard; the Lady Anne Dacres of the South; Mrs. Margery Wentworth; Mrs. Margaret Tilney; Mrs. Jane Blenner Hasset; Mrs. Isabel Pennel; Mrs. Margaret Kussey; Mrs. Geretrude Stratham; and Mrs. Isabel Knight.

After the old Duke of Norfolk's decease in 1524, the Castle again reverted to the Crown, and in the following year was selected for the residence of the young Henry Fitzroy, Duke of Richmond, (natural son to Henry VIII. by the beautiful and accomplished Lady Tailbois, daughter of Sir John Blount, and relict of Sir Gilbert Tailbois) he having been made Lieutenant-General of the North, and Warden of the Scottish Marshes, although only six years of age. The young Duke was of course attended by a Council, for the due administration of public affairs; and by the persons appointed to superintend his education. There is a letter still preserved in the British Museum, addressed in his own hand-writing to the King, (dated Sheriff-Hutton, Nov. 1529,) and written expressly to thank him for the care he had taken of his education, and to shew what progress he had made in his studies.*

* Henry was extremely partial to this boy, and successively created him Duke of Richmond, Earl of Nottingham, Admiral of England, and Lieutenant of Ireland.—(v. Lingard's England, vol. 6.)

The following is an exact copy of the letter, taken also from the 1st volume of Dr. Nott's Memoirs.

Please it your Grace, to be advertised; that at this time I do write unto the same, not only to make a demonstration of this my proceeding in writing; but, also in my right humble and lowlywise to beseech your Grace, of your daily blessing; and pardon, for that I have so long time delay'd, and forborn to write unto your Grace, to whose favour and goodness no creature living is more bound than I am. And like as it hath pleased Almighty God, and the Kings Highness; much part by the means and good favour of your Grace to prefer and advance me in honour; so shall I, God willing, endeavour myself and apply my time to th' attaining and increase of learning, virtue, and cunning correspondent to the same; whereby I may be more able to do unto the King's Highness such service hereafter, as shall consist with his most gracious pleasure, which of all things under God is, and shall be my only mind, intent, and purpose; as Master Magnus, this bearer, Director of my Council shall make relation unto your Grace: whom Almighty God evermore have in his most holy and blessed tuition and governance. At Sheriff-Hutton, the fourth day of March, by your most humble godson.

H. Rychemond.

Of this letter, Dr. Nott says, that 'the handwriting, and the composition bespeak a person who had made a considerable progress in learning. It could not well have been written earlier than 1520. Dr. Magnus, a person of considerable ability, and much employed by Henry and Wolsey in their negotiations with the Scottish Court, seems to have been the principal person

‘ in Richmond’s Council. In the British Museum
‘ many letters are preserved, written by the Coun-
‘ cil [*from Sheriff Hutton*] on various points of
‘ business. In one they ask directions of Wolsey,
‘ as to the nature and value of a new-year’s gift,
‘ which Richmond was to send to the King.—
‘ It is not known who had the particular charge
‘ of Richmond’s education. Leland seems to have
‘ contributed a little towards it. He tells us that
‘ he sent to the Duke a book of copies for writing,
‘ and Richmond quickly profited by his instruc-
‘ tion. His hand-writing was beautiful.’

The letter relating to the “New-Year’s Gift,”
addressed to Cardinal Wolsey, is thus written—

We intend at this time, if it may stand with your Graces
pleasure; to provide for the Kings Highness, a new years gift,
to be sent unto his Highness at the begining of this next new
year from my Lord of Richmond. And for that purpose we
have sent this bearer Wm. Amyas to London, for making and
for provision of the same; and how we shall use ourselves
therein, for the device and value thereof we beseech your Grace,
that this said bearer may know your Graces pleasure. And, if
it may stand with the same your pleasure, that we shall in like
manner provide any other new Years gifts for the Queen’s Grace,
the French Queen, the Dukes of Norfolk and of Suffolk, and for
the Marquesses of Exeter and Dorset. We do most humbly
beseech your Grace, that this bearer may also know your plea-
sure concerning the same, which we have commanded him to
observe in every behalf, as our Lord knoweth, who evermore
have you in his holy tuition and governing our most singular

SHERIFF-HUTTON CASTLE. 29

good and gracious Lord. Written at the Castle of Sheriff
Hutton the 1st day of November, by

Your most humble Servants

Brian Higdon.

W^m Parr.

John Dalby.

W^m Franklin.

Rich^d Page.

Jo. Uvedale.

The Duke, it is believed, finally quitted Sheriff-Hutton about 1580, and died in London before he had completed his eighteenth year—and it was long before the King forgot the untimely loss of this amiable youth, of whose genius and accomplishments he had formed the highest expectations. From that time to the year 1625, (when King Charles the First granted the Castle and Park to the family of the Ingrams, as mentioned at page 5 of this account,) the present compiler has not met with any further document relative to its history. From what has already been stated, it becomes pretty certain, that the demolition of the interior of the Castle must have taken place between the years 1547 and 1600, either in the reign of Edward VI.; Mary I.; or Elizabeth.

In conclusion, it may not be improper to observe, that many persons who visit Sheriff-Hutton Castle, will lament to see its ancient Walls and Towers encumbered with hay-stacks, pigeon-cots, &c.; particularly at the entrance near the eastern

portal—even the ruins themselves seem to “*frown resentment*” for every insult or injury they sustain.* These excrescences will be remarked as an unsightly contrast to the fine prospect on the south, from whence, over an extensive champaign, the eye of taste is gratified with a complete, though

* About four or five years ago, Mr. Plows, jun. a builder in York, was employed nearly three months in repairs, at an expense to the Noble Proprietor of £80 or £90. All the loose stones on the tops of the Towers, &c. were carefully taken off, and re-fastened and pointed with Roman cement; as they were become dangerous to persons passing underneath, and to the cattle grazing in the pastures below. This timely aid will, in all probability, secure it from further decay for at least a century in advance. It would have been highly gratifying if the repairs had extended so far, as to have cleared away to a more distant quarter, the incongruous appearances above mentioned; and to have affixed a new roof and stairs to either of the South Towers, but more especially to the *south-west*, wherein the remains of the original staircases may plainly be traced, in good preservation, even from the dungeon below. During the time of the scaffolding being erected for repairs, it was ascertained that an excellent Observatory might be made on the top of this Tower, where there is good standing-room, nearly breast high within the battlement, and capable of holding half a dozen persons at least. In that event, a very pleasing panoramic view, including a circle of 20 or 30 miles, might be enjoyed in safety by the inhabitants of the village, and by occasional visitors from the surrounding neighbourhood.

“ Who props the sinking pile, renews its sway,
Lives o'er the past, and joins the future day;
Thus from oblivion wrests the hoary name,
And on a falling ruin builds his fame.”

distant survey of York Cathedral,—that “most august of Temples,” as the author of *Ivanhoe*,* has impressively termed it, and the just glory and pride of the modern Eboracum.

* Whilst alluding to the great “Known-Unknown” of the North, it is almost impossible to avoid expressing a regret, that “*Ivanhoe*,” “*Kenilworth*,” and “*Peveril of the Peak*,” are the only *English* novels which this far-famed author has produced. The public have signified an ardent hope, that it might be his intention to continue the English series; and several of his Yorkshire admirers are sanguine enough to imagine, that the historical events at Sheriff-Hutton in the “*olden time*,” would afford sufficient *materiel* for another English Romance from the pen of this distinguished writer.—Whence, but from the obscure village of “*Cummer*,” arose the magic edifice of “*Kenilworth*?”



ADDENDA,

CONTAINING

**THE ROYAL SURVEY OF THE
MANOR, CASTLE, AND PARK OF
SHERIFF-HUTTON,**

(Referred to at page 5 of the preceding Account)

**TOGETHER WITH BRIEF NOTICES
OF THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
&c. &c.**



ADDENDA:

SURVEY

OF THE

MANOR, CASTLE, AND PARK OF SHERIFF-HUTTON,

In the Time of JAMES 1st, 1624.

THROUGH the kindness of George Lowther Thompson, Esq. M. P. of Sheriff-Hutton Park, the Editor is enabled to present the following hitherto un-published "*Survey*" to the reader, from an exact copy, in Mr. Thompson's possession, of the original manuscript now in the British Museum. The MS. is mentioned as existing in the Harleian Library, in the second volume of Gough's British Topography, p. 449.

Harleian Library, British Museum,
No. 6288.

' The Survey of the MANOR of Sheriff-Hoten
' and the members thereof in the County of York,
' parcel of the possessions of Charles Prince of
' Wales, Duke of Cornwall and of York, and Earl

‘ of Chester, [*afterwards Charles 1st*] taken in
 ‘ July and August, [1624] by John Norden, sen.
 ‘ and John Norden, jun. by virtue of his Majesty’s
 ‘ Commission out of the Exchequer, dated 16th
 ‘ June, 22d James 1st, as well as by the peram-
 ‘ bulation and view of the land, and evidence of the
 ‘ tenants, as by the oaths of those as touching
 ‘ Sheriff-Hutton Manor itself, that are hereafter
 ‘ named, viz. :—

John Coates, Gent.

Chris. Middleton,

Will. Dalton,

Willm. Pecket,

Robt. Pecket,

Brydn Sugget,

Robt. Harrison, of Lilling, Thos. Stabler,

Christ. Richardson, of Do. Chris. Deane,

Robt. Wright,

Robt. Graungeby,

‘ Who say upon their oaths to the first article, as
 ‘ touching the bounds and circuit of the Manor,
 ‘ that it beginneth at and includeth a House and
 ‘ Garths thereunto belonging, called East Lilling
 ‘ House, now in the occupation of one Mrs. Mary
 ‘ Hall, widow, and from the same house by a hedge
 ‘ which divideth East Lilling, Thornton, and Flax-
 ‘ ton, by Flaxton Sike; from that Sike, to a place
 ‘ called Waghbut Hurne, thence to a certain bound
 ‘ stone which boundeth Strenshall and Sheriff-
 ‘ Hutton Commons, and soe runneth up by divers
 ‘ bound stones on the south side of Moresough
 ‘ Lawnde unto Sutton Moure, to a place called
 ‘ Hassel Dyke; and from that Dyke by sundry

‘ bound stones untill it come to Foss Side, near the
 ‘ Mill ; thence to a gate called Floud Gate, adjoyn-
 ‘ ing Cornbrough, and from the Floud Gate, by
 ‘ Cornbrough Hedge on the back side of Dudd’s
 ‘ Hill, adjoining Whenby Lordship, to Melling
 ‘ Hurne ; thence by the Dyke between North Ings,
 ‘ Scusby, and Dalby, by the river that runs be-
 ‘ tween Terrington and Sheriff-Hutton, unto the
 ‘ lower head of Dumpool, and from Dumpool Head,
 ‘ unto the Boats Dyke, and by that Dyke dividing
 ‘ Mowthorpe and Sheriff-Hutton Carr, until it
 ‘ come to a Sike called Byard Bore, and by the
 ‘ said Dyke dividing Stitnam Lordship from
 ‘ Sheriff-Hutton unto the North Nuke of the Ware
 ‘ Close, and so by the east hedge of that close unto
 ‘ Sheriff-Hutton Park Pale, and then by the Park
 ‘ Pale unto and including a close called Cauf
 ‘ Close, and so by that close hedge unto East
 ‘ Lilling House, where it began.

‘ To the 2d article touching the demeisnes, it
 ‘ appeareth that there was and yet is the case of a
 ‘ STATELY CASTLE, the inward materials trans-
 ‘ ported and the walls ruined, situate as it seemeth
 ‘ upon a natural but not much advaunced ground, e,
 ‘ though yielding a very pleasing prospecte. About
 ‘ the Castle there is a garth of good pasture, con-
 ‘ taining, by estimation, sixe acres, wherein ap-
 ‘ pears the forms of certain decayed fishponds.
 ‘ The Castle seemeth to have been the heade or

‘ capital residence of the auncient Lordes of this
‘ Manor, built (as by tradition) by a Nevil, Earl of
‘ Westmoreland : the bowels of this worthy pyle
‘ and defensive house are rent and torn, and the
‘ naked carcase, latelye, as is affirmed by his
‘ Majesty, aliened in fee, among other things, to
‘ one Mr. Lumsden, or Linsdon, the conveyance
‘ whereof we have not seen.

‘ To this Castle Garth adjoineth SHERIFF-HUTTON
‘ PARK, well stored with fallow deer, and set with
‘ neer 4000 decayed and decaying oaks, the most
‘ of them headed. This *Park*, by the relation of
‘ Sir Arthur Ingram, Knt. present tenant to the
‘ same Park, is estated, by his Majesty’s letters pa-
‘ tent, unto the same Sir Arthur during life, and
‘ after his decease to young Sir Arthur, his son,
‘ for life, under the rent of eight pounds per annum.
‘ And by like relation the said Sir Arthur has, by
‘ another letters patent, a lease in reversion after
‘ their lives for forty years to hold to his assignees ;
‘ and by the said last letters patent, when it shall
‘ happen to commence, there is to be yielded and
‘ paid to his Highness per ann. 50 pounds, with
‘ covenant to maintain in the same Park 300 Deer.
‘ Sir Arthur Ingram hath raised a very fayre new
‘ lodge with brick, and with a fayre garden en-
‘ closed with a brick wall, with mount walkes and
‘ fayre ornamentes.

‘ Sir Charles Cavendish, Knt. is said to hold of
‘ the Demesnes certain Parcels of Land, Meadow,
‘ Pasture, and drowned Ground, called Ings.’

The original grant (mentioned in the above Survey) by James 1st* to the family of Ingram, was afterwards enlarged by Charles 1st, who gave the Park of Sheriff-Hutton, with “the Appurtenances, also Liberty, Franchise, and Privilege of Park,” to Sir Thomas Ingram, his Heirs and Assigns, for ever.

In the reign of Charles 2d, it became the seat of a branch of the family of the Thompsons, having been purchased by Edward Thompson, Esq. who was Representative for the City of York in the first and second Parliaments of William and Mary, and in the first Parliament of William III. It is now the property and residence of his descendant, George Lowther Thompson, Esq. M. P.


The house contains several pictures of merit, and around it are many fine oaks of ancient growth and venerable appearance. One of these trees, which was blown down many years ago, is said to

* James 1st visited Sheriff-Hutton Park during his sojourn at York in August, 1617. v. *Drake's Eboracum*, p. 134.

have been standing in the reign of Richard III. ; it was called the " Warwick Oak," from having been (according to the tradition of the neighbourhood) the limit to which the unfortunate Earl of Warwick was permitted to extend his walks, during the period of his confinement in the Castle of Sheriff-Hutton.

There is another local tradition of the elders of the village, that there was once a subterraneous passage between the Castle and the Park ;—but for what purpose it was constructed, if indeed it ever existed at all, is now entirely unknown.

—————" an aged swain, whose hoary head
Was bent with years, the Village Chronicle,
Who much had seen, and, from the former times
Much had receiv'd. He, hanging o'er the hearth,
In winter evenings, to th' admiring swains,
And children circling round the fire, would tell
Stories of old, of *Hutton's* stately towers,
And tales of other times." —————



THE
CHURCH OF ST. HELEN.

THE Parish of Sheriff-Hutton comprises both a Rectory and a Vicarage. The rectorial possessions are vested in the Archbishop of York in right of his See, and are, like many other of the ecclesiastical possessions, held under his Grace by lease for three lives. The Church was formerly given and appropriated to the Priory of *Marton*, distant about two miles;* and at the dissolution of the Priory in the reign of Henry VIII. the Church was granted to the Archbishop of York and his successors. The first Vicar appointed by the Prior and Convent of *Marton* was *Dominus William de Garton*, 16. Jan. 1291.

The parish is of considerable extent, including not only the township of Sheriff-Hutton, but the townships of Stitenham, East Lilling, West Lilling, Farlington, and Cornborough. The Arch-

* v. Burton's *Monasticon Ebor.* pp. 265-6.

bishop of York is Patron of the Vicarage, and the present incumbent is the Rev. Benjamin Lumley, of Dalby, successor of the late Rev. Thomas Tate, who died Jan. 3, 1824, and who had been in possession of the Vicarage upwards of forty years. Value in the King's books £16, Parliamentary return, £140. 18s.

The Church is in the Deanery of Bulmer, and within the Archdeaconry of the Venerable and Rev. Francis Wrangham, M. A. F. R. S. Archdeacon of Cleveland. It is dedicated to St. Helen,* and exhibits traces of considerable antiquity, but the precise date of its erection is unknown—perhaps about the middle of the reign of Henry III. A. D. 1250, a period in which most of our Gothic Parish Churches were built. The situation is a short distance from the Castle on the east. The exterior of this Church is supported with strong buttresses, and the interior consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with Gothic pointed arches. Several of the windows are also pointed, but others have been altered or

* St. Helen, or St. Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great, who was born at York A. D. 272. She was of British extraction, and at the advanced age of 80, visited the Holy Land, where she discovered the cross of our Saviour, deeply buried in the ground. From this circumstance she was reputed a Saint, and several Churches, in different parts of the world, were dedicated to her. v. *Brady's Clavis Calendaria*.

repaired with square copings or weather moulds, similar to those in vogue about the time of Henry the Eighth. The eastern window is large, and of handsome branching tracery. A few fragments of stained glass are still preserved, but they are of trifling import, excepting one compartment which exhibits the bust or head of a Monk, bearing a Crosier on his shoulder; and another with part of the Royal Arms of England. The length of the Church, from east to west, is about ninety feet, and fifty-seven feet across in the broadest part. The stone, with which it is built, appears to be of a more perishable nature than that of the adjacent Castle.

The principal entrance on the west displays a pointed arch in the door-way, with a large massive tower above, square built and embattled at the top. There are four windows in this tower, each consisting of two pointed lights, divided by a shaft or column in the centre. The belfrey chamber contains three large and full-toned bells—the first dated 1643, with this inscription round the edge, "*Jesus be our speed;*"—the second dated 1663, and the inscription, "*Soli Deo gloria, pax omnibus;*"—on the third bell is 1642, and the inscription, "*Soli Deo gloria.*"

Besides the western entrance, there are two others of smaller size, one on the north, the other on the south side of the Church. The centre roof over the nave is almost flat, but the roofs of the

side aisles are placed lower down, and more sloping. The whole were renewed in the year 1640, and are supported by large ribs of oak, and excellently well covered outwardly with lead. The wood-work of many of the pews is very ancient, with a curious sort of flowery scroll painted on several of the doors; and in addition to the pews, there are several old benches fixed on the floor in different parts of the Church, for the further accommodation of the parishioners. These consist of very dark and massive planks of oak, but without ornament, and in all probability have been the produce of the adjoining Forest of *Galtres*, when that forest was in existence. The whole interior of the Church has lately been placed in a very creditable state of repair and neatness.

The baptismal font is of a plain circular form, lined with lead, and raised upon an octagon shaft, with a moulded base. Of late years there has been a very neat and convenient gallery raised at the west end of the Church, in which is placed a large and handsome hand-organ.

In the north aisle, adjoining the wall near the vestry, are two ancient monuments deserving of notice. One of these is of stone, and represents the full-length figure, recumbent, of a Knight Templar, with his legs crossed, and a lion, or talbot, couchant at his feet. The crossing of the legs signified, according to the monumental

fashion of the times, that he had been a Crusader to the Holy Land,—

“ And fought the holy wars in Palestine ! ”

This warrior is of somewhat gigantic proportion, completely armed, and with the hands clasped together over the breast. The shield on the left arm displays in one corner of it the figure of a bird, like a hawk, but the other part of the shield is not distinguishable. This monument is evidently intended for one of the *Bytham* family, as there is a large blue slab-tomb close beside it on the floor, on which may be perceived a shield with similar birds—per bend three hawks counterchanged, impaling on a fesse between three hawks, three escallop shells. Upon this tomb there is the following inscription in old English characters, or black letter, by which it appears, that *Thomas Bytham* had built a porch or vestibule in the Church, and his wife *Agnes* had founded a Chapel therein—the inscription ending with “ *Oh Christ ! have mercy upon Thomas Bytham and his spouse Agnes who rest here together.* ” There is no date affixed.

“ Vestibulum fieri qui fecit et ista capellam
Hic cantariam Sistere perpetuam
Fundans, Christe, Thomæ Bytham miserere, suæque
Agneti sponsæ, qui simul hic recubant.”

The other monument is of alabaster, and much smaller. It is placed in the bottom of the window, and represents a figure, also recumbent, of a


young female, apparently of high rank, as her head rests on double cushions, and is surmounted with some ornament like a coronet. There is also a shield placed above the head, on which is a plain cross.* Underneath this monument is a very curious piece of Gothic sculpture divided into seven compartments, which has been richly canopied at the top. The centre compartment contains a figure of a priest or dignitary, who is seated, and holding a crucifix between his knees. On each side of him are figures of angels, &c. This sculpture appears to be distinct from the monument above (although in all likelihood connected with its history), and is placed a little below the window. There are several other armorial shields, &c. upon these old monuments, but they are so much defaced and choaked up with numberless coats of whitewash, that it is impossible to distinguish what they represent. It would be highly desirable that some judicious hand should be appointed to remove these accumulated crusts.

Within the altar rails is the family vault of the *Halls* of Lilling, and some of the brass effigies on their slab-tombs are very ancient and perfect—others have been despoiled of the brasses, which

* From this circumstance, it has been conjectured that the monument might be of the *Neville* family, although the shield is not a saltire—but there is no inscription, or tradition, to tell exactly to whom it belonged. In reference to the *Nevilles*, see a long account in Dugdale's *Baronage*, edit. 1675, p. 287.

formerly adorned them. Three handsome marble tablets, of modern date, are placed on the walls in memory of the same family.

In the south aisle of the Church are some remnants of the funeral trophies of one of the *Knights Gower* of Stitenham, an ancestor of the present most Noble George Granville Leveson Gower, Marquess of Stafford.* His steel casque (surmounted with a wolf, the family crest of the Gowers) together with his gauntlet, and spur, are hung up against the wall; as are also his armorial banner or knight's pennon, and shield of arms. The vault, containing his remains, is covered with a large blue slab, and is situated nearly underneath the trophies, but the inscription upon it is now illegible.



In the reign of King Edward III. about 1330, it is recorded, that in consideration of the great services done by Ralph Nevill, Lord Raby, the Sovereign granted him certain privileges for the maintenance of two priests, to celebrate divine service daily in the *Parish Church*, for the good estate of himself during life, and afterwards for the health of the souls of his father and mother, and all his ancestors.

* This family is one of the most ancient in Yorkshire. The Peerage of England, in the account of Earl Gower's family, mentions Sir Allan Gower, of Stitenham, as having been Sheriff of Yorkshire at the time of the Norman Conquest, 1066.

In 1349 there was a chantry founded on the south side of the Church, at the altar of St. Mary and St. Peter, by Sir Ralph de Neville, Knight, or by Dame Alice de Neville, whereunto were given and assigned to the Vicar of the Church and his successors, certain lands, for which the said Vicar was to find one fit Priest perpetually to celebrate mass for the soul of the said Alice.* This chantry and altar, together with the ancient chapel of the *Bythams*, have long since been destroyed.

The Church of Sheriff-Hutton formerly paid twenty marks of silver annually to St. Mary's Abbey at York, granted to it by *Emma de Humai*. v. Drake's York, p. 588.

In passing over a stile from the church-yard to the north-east, the visitor will enjoy a pleasing view of the Howardian Hills, † Castle Howard Woods, the distant Wolds, and Sheriff-Hutton Park ; together with the Villages of Bulmer, Stitenham, Terrington, &c.

* *Vide* Torre's MSS. in York Minster Library.

† Howardian Hills—so called by Marshall in his 'Rural Economy of Yorkshire,' from their vicinity to Castle Howard, the splendid mansion of the Earl of Carlisle. They consist of a high and bold range of hills running from east to west, and divide the Vale of York (or Vale of Mowbray, as it was formerly called) from Ryedale.

COMPLETE LIST
OF THE
VICARS OF SHERIFF-HUTTON CHURCH,

From 1281 to 1824.

Instituted	Names	Patron	Vacated by
A. D.			
1281	Wm. de Garton.....	Prior of Marton...	
1316	Henry de Burton ...	.....ib.....	
1340	Wm. de Codelvngs...	Jno. de Gamelyngs	
	Wm. Aslaby .....	.....ib.....	Mort.
1349	Wm. Codelyngs.....	.....ib.....	
	Jno. de Ulseley	Prior of Marton...	Resignation
1377	Wm. de Crayke .....	.....ib.....	ib.
1401	Adam de Ebor.....	.....ib.....	
1402	Roger de Brandesby	.....ib.....	
	Robert de Cave .....	.....ib.....	Mort.
1409	Wm. Bardsay.....	.....ib.....	Resignation
1466	John Elingwald .....	.....ib.....	Mort.
1487	Wm. Nelson .....	.....ib.....	
1516	Richard Morton.....	.....ib.....	Privation
	Jno. Gambe.....	.....ib.....	Mort.
1554	Wm. Spenser	Maria Regina.....	Resignation
	Robert Byar		
1572	Christ. Mattison	Archbishop of York	Mort.
1573	Thos. Richardson ...	.....ib.....	Resignation
1583	Jno. Crosby .....	.....ib.....	Mort.
1585	Bartinus Hardeman.	.....ib.....	ib.
1628	Ralph Dry .....	.....ib.....	
1638	Wm. Lucke.....	.....ib.....	
1665	Samuel Taylor .....	.....ib.....	Mort.
1680	Jos. Cressey .....	.....ib.....	ib.
	Lionel Jackson .....	.....ib.....	Cess. fallen
1700	Edward Willey .....	.....ib.....	Mort.
1735	Richard Hawxwell...	.....ib.....	ib.
1783	Thomas Tate.....	.....ib.....	ib.
1824	Benjamin Lumley...	.....ib.....	

THE VILLAGE.

It has already been observed, that the village of Sheriff-Hutton displays a singular appearance of hill and valley—(see page 11) —a deep ravine runs through the greater part of the main street, and the houses and cottages are built high up on each side. The population of the village in the year 1811, according to the parliamentary returns, was six hundred and sixty-four; and in the year 1821, seven hundred and fifty-six.*

In the year 1377 (temp. Richard II.), the son of Ralph Neville, Lord Raby, obtained a charter for holding a weekly market here on Monday, and a fair annually on the 14th of September (being the eve of the exaltation of the Holy Cross),

* The population of the townships in this parish, in 1821, was, at Cornborough, 63; Farlington, 170; Lilling, 208; and Stitenham, 81—making a total of the whole parish, 1278.

and the two following days: but these have been long discontinued.

We learn from "*Domesday Book*," published in the time of William the Conqueror, A. D. 1086 (in which the estates of the kingdom were registered), that the present name of *Sheriff Hutton* was not then in use. The village was merely called *Hotune*, or *Hutton*. The term *Sheriff* was, in all probability, prefixed when Bertram de Bulmer, the founder of the Castle, was appointed Sheriff of Yorkshire, *pro novem Annis*, by King Henry II. in 1154. Sheriffs (says Blackstone) were usually men of high rank and great power, to whom the King committed (together with his counties) his castles and manors, lying within their bailiwick. They provided the castles with ammunition, and other necessities, and stocked and improved his manors, and collected all his rents and revenues within their district.

There are many very curious particulars in "*Domesday Book*," relative to the partition of the lands and names of the owners, in Sheriff-Hutton, Lilling, Bulmer, and Stitenham, at this early period. The following are selected as specimens of the style of the English translation of this extraordinary work:

Clamores de Euruicscire. Nort Treding.
(*Claims of Yorkshire, North-Riding.*)

'They say that *William Malet* bought seven

‘ carucates of land of *Sprot*, in *Hotone* (*Hutton*) for
 ‘ ten marks of silver. *Nigel Fossard* held the land
 ‘ of *Turulf*, and *Turchil*, and *Turstan*, in *Hotune*,
 ‘ that is, three manors of four carucates of land,
 ‘ unjustly ; but he has given them up, and they are
 ‘ now in the hands of the King [*William the*
Conqueror.]

‘ In *Hottune* (*Hutton*) *Sprot* had seven carucates.
 ‘ *Gulbert*, a vassal of *Hugh’s*, has there one plough,
 ‘ and eleven villanes with two ploughs.’

‘ In *Lilinge* (*Lilling*) four *Thanes* had four
 ‘ carucates to be taxed. Land two ploughs. Also
 ‘ *Ulf* had fourteen oxgangs of land to be taxed,
 ‘ Land to one plough.’

‘ In *Bolemere* and *Stidnum* (*Bulmer* and *Stiten-*
ham) *Ligulf* and *Norman* had two manors of
 ‘ fifteen carucates to be taxed, and there may be
 ‘ eight ploughs. *Nigel* now has them of the
 ‘ Earl [*Morton*.] In the demesne two ploughs
 ‘ and twenty-five villanes with eight ploughs.
 ‘ There is a priest and a church, and one mill of two
 ‘ shillings, and twenty acres of meadow. Wood
 ‘ pasture seven quarentens long and two broad.
 ‘ The whole one mile and a half long, and four
 ‘ quarentens broad. Value in King *Edward’s*
 ‘ time one hundred shillings, now forty shillings.’

ROMAN TUMULI.

In a field adjoining the south side of the church-yard are six very remarkable hills or mounds, to which the attention of the stranger will naturally be excited. They are nearly of an oblong form, narrow at the top, and shelving gradually broader to the base. Those, who are conversant in subjects of antiquarian research, may probably refer them to the Roman times, and call them *Tumuli*, or sepulchral monuments. This supposition is in some measure confirmed by the well-known fact, that the Romans were formerly in this neighbourhood (upwards of one thousand years ago), as proved by *Drake*, in his account of their having drained the River Foss from the Forest of Galtres to the City of York.—v. also *Leland*.

RIVER FOSS.

SOMEWHERE near the Castle of Sherif Hutcn, says *Leland*, the River Foss, at York, has its rise in the Forest of Galtres, drained from thence by the Romans—‘*Fossa, amnis piger, inter stagnantis aquæ collectæ ex pluriâ et terræ uligine, originem habet ultra Castellum Huttonicum, terminatque fines Calaterii Nemoris* ; * *tandem serpens prope Castellum*

* The Roman name for the Forest of Galtres.

'*Ebor. in alveum Usæ fluit.*—v. *Collectanea*, tom. iv. For an account of the rights of the Nevils, Lords of Sheriff-Hutton, to the ancient fishery in the waters of Foss, see *Drake*, p. 303.

Some years ago, two Acts of Parliament were obtained (one in 1793, the other in 1801) for making this river navigable from York to *Stillington Mill*; and for draining and improving certain low lands lying on each side of the said river,—but the Company of Proprietors have not yet been able to extend the navigation farther than about two miles from Sheriff-Hutton, and four or five from Stillington.

FOREST OF GALTRES.

THE ancient Forest of Galtres formerly extended nearly all round Sheriff-Hutton, and to Craike Castle—and even beyond Easingwold, distant eight miles.

Higden, in his *Polychronicon*, says that it extended twenty miles to the north-west, and was inhabited by wild boars and other beasts of prey. There was a place in *York*, formerly called *Davy's Haul*, assigned as a place of punishment for offenders in this forest.—v. *Leland*. And in the steeple of the church of All Saints, in Pav-

ment, which is the highest ground in that City, a large lamp was formerly lighted up in the night, as a guide for travellers in their passage over this once immense forest.

The purlieus, or borders near Sheriff-Hutton, on the Sutton side, were greatly celebrated in the earliest annals of horse-racing. Camden mentions an annual competition, or as it is termed, "*Equorum decursus solennis*," a solemn Horse-running, where the prize for the winning horse was a little golden bell, which was tied on his forehead, and he was then led about in triumph. Hence, probably, comes the old proverb, *to bear away the bell*.

The following paragraph, in Camden's own words, will further illustrate this memorable anecdote of the equestrian fame of Yorkshire.

' Deinde ad Austrum Calaterium Nemus, vulgò *The Forest of Galtres* subjacet, arboribus alicubi opacum, alicubi uliginosâ planitie madescens: hodie equorum solenni cursu, in quo victori equo campanula aurea præmio proponitur, celeberrimum. Vix enim credibile, quanta hominum multitudo ad hæc certamina undique confluat, et quantis depositis pignoribus de equorum velocitate concertetur.' — v. *Camden's Britannia*, fol. 1607, p. 588.

SAINT JOHN'S WELL.

ABOUT three miles from Sheriff-Hutton (on the Sutton side), is an ancient building, consisting of a small dome of brick and stone, over a spring, commonly called "*Saint John's Well.*" The water is reported to be of sovereign virtue, and there is a large and convenient stone-cistern built on the east side, into which the water is admitted, for the purpose of bathing. In former times, it is said to have been much frequented. At present, the building which encloses the spring is greatly in want of repairs. In the dark ages of superstition it was customary, if *Wells* were situated in lonely places, and the water was clear and limpid, having the grass flourishing close to its edge, to look upon it as having a medicinal quality; and accordingly it was given to some Saint, and honoured with his or her name, as *St. John's*; *St. Mary Magdalen's*; *St. Mary's*; *St. Winefred's*; *St. Anne's*; *Our Lady's Well* (upon the *New Walk at York*); &c.*

* v. *Brand's Popular Antiquities.*

THE POET GOWER, OF STITENHAM.

ON the north-east side of Sheriff-Hutton, distant about two miles, is Stitenham, formerly a seat of the *Gowers*, of which noble family was John Gower, the celebrated poet,

“ Who, in times

Dark and untaught, began with charming verse
To tame the rudeness of his native land.”

This earliest reformer of our English tongue, styled by his contemporary, Chaucer, the “*Moral Gower*,” was born at Stitenham, A. D. 1320.* Little is known with certainty of his personal history; even his birth-place has been disputed, some having asserted that he was of Welch origin (according to Thynne, Caxton, and Godwin); but “the proud tradition in the Marquess of Stafford’s family has been, and still is, that he was of *Stitenham*; and who would not consider the dignity of their genealogy augmented, in enrolling among its worthies THE MORAL GOWER!”† The following singular description of his person and dress, occurs in a scarce old poem, by Robert Greene,

* v. Fuller’s “*Worthies of England*,” II. 513. See also “*Leland*,” and “*Magna Britannia*,” VI. 589.

† v. Illustration of the Lives of Gower and Chaucer, by the Rev. H. J. Todd (of Settrington), page 21 of the Introduction.

called "The Vision ;" printed in black letter, in 1592. The doggrell character of the rhyme may readily be excused, on account of the minute fidelity of description.

The Description of JOHN GOWER.

" Large he was, his height was long ;
 Broad of breast, his limbs were strong ;
 But couller pale, and wan his looke ;
 Such have they that ply'n their booke ;
 His head was gray, and quaintly shorne ;
 Neately was his bearde worne :
 His vissage grave, and stern, and grim ;
 Cato was most like to him.
 His bonnet was a hat of blew ;
 His sleeves straight, of that same hew.
 A surcoat of a tawnie die,
 Hung in pleights over his thigh :
 Picked before were his shoone,
 He wore such as others doone.
 A bag of red was by his side,
 And by that, his napkin tide.
 Thus JOHN GOWER did appeare
 Quaint attired, as you heere."

Gower is by many called the English *Homer*, as he was very aged when he died (in London in Henry the Fourth's reign, about 1402), and quite blind. Of the several poetical works in Latin, French, and English, of which he was the author, the romance, called, "*Confessio Amantis*," is the most remarkable. This curious poem was written at the request of "the noble Duke Henry of Lancaster." It is in English, and consists of more than

thirty thousand lines, and may be considered, says *Warton*, as no unpleasing miscellany of those shorter tales which delighted the readers of the middle age.* In the present times, most of these

* CAXTON's first edition of the works of this early English Poet, in one small folio volume, was lately sold by auction in London for £58. 16s. 1.—v. Catalogue of the sale of the Library of John Trotter Brockett, Esq. of Newcastle, in December, 1823, where it is described under the following title—

Gower (John) Confessio Amantis

Emprynted at Westmestre, by me William Caxton,
and fynnysshed the 11th Day of Septembre, the fyrst
yere of the Regne of King Richard the Thyrde, the
yere of our Lord

MCCCCLXXXIII.

‘ And whosoever, in redynge of THIS WERKE, doth consyder it well, shall fynde that it is plentifully stuffed and founnysshed with manyfolde eloquent reasons, sharpe and quicke argumentes, and examples of great auctoritee, perswadynge vnto vertue, not onely taken out of the poeties, oratours, historywriters, and philosophers, but also out of the holy scripture. There is, to my dome [judgement], no man but that he may, bi reading of THIS WERKE, get right great knowledge, as wel for the understanding of many and diuers autors, whose resons, sayenges, and histories are translated into THIS WERKE, as for the plenty of englishe wordes and vulgars, besyde the furtheraunce of the lyfe to vertue—which olde englysshe words and vulgars no wyse man because of their antiquitie wyll throwe asyde. And whereas if any man wante redy words approved of good effecte and strength, let him resorte to this worthy old wryter, *John Gower*, that shal as a lanterne gyve him lyght to wryte coynningly, and to garnishe his sentences in our vulgar tongue.’

v. *Berthelet's Dedication to K. Henry V^{III}. edit. of the Poem, 1532.*

tales are become nearly obsolete. Gower was the intimate friend and companion of *Chaucer*, with whom he frequently conferred about his works, and sometimes argued warmly, but without anger, of which *Leland* speaks with great pleasure, and observes that the only real dispute between them was, which should honour the other most. Of this illustrious YORKSHIRE POET it has been said, that he was a student at the Inner Temple, and frequented the courts of law; but his inclination certainly led him chiefly to polite learning, in which he made a rapid progress, particularly in the Latin tongue—and also in the refinement of the English language, which at that period might be called semi-barbarous. It is recorded of Gower, that he ‘prepared for his bones
‘a restynge place in the *Monastery of Saynt*
‘*Marye Overes* [London], where, somewhat after
‘the olde fashion, he lyeth ryght sumptuously
‘buried, with an effigie of him over his tomb,
‘habited in purple damask down to his feet, a
‘collar of SS. round his neck, and a garland
‘on his head, in token that he in hys lyfe-days
‘flouryshed freshely in literature and science.’

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